

Message

From: Hubbard, Carolyn [Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov]
Sent: 5/16/2016 1:37:28 PM
To: ORD Science Communication [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]; White, Terri-A [White.Terri-A@epa.gov]; D'Andrea, Michael [DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV]; Dunn, Michael [dunn.michael@epa.gov]; Landy, Ronald [Landy.Ronald@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

From: "Burke, Thomas" <Burke.Thomas@epa.gov>
Subject: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

Administrator,

On May 18, Peter Grevatt and I will participate in a workshop for the President's Council for Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST). I will provide a systems-based context for drinking water protection and make recommendations related to monitoring and protecting source water, improving water treatment, and addressing challenges with infrastructure and premise plumbing.

Bob Kavlock and Lek Kadeli will participate for ORD in the Eagle Horizon exercise this week. As part of the exercise, ORD will be exercising our technical reach back capability (RACER) to coordinate support in response to some specific aspects of the exercise.

Last week I started weekly check-ins with CDC to share information and coordinate our efforts and communications in Flint. Our discussions focused on the status of the filter study and rash investigation. Joel also gave an update on the PFOS/PFOA health advisory.

ORD is looking forward to Joel's visit to Cincinnati. On May 17, Joel will talk to our staff about Flint, algal toxins, and PFOS/PFOA. On May 18, Joel will tour several green infrastructure sites in Cincinnati, including one site where ORD is collaborating with the Metropolitan Sewer District.

Tire Crumb

On May 12, representatives from CPSC and EPA visited the [Ex. 3 [CERCLA section 104(e)(7)(42 USC 9604(e)(7))]] in [Ex. 3 [CERCLA section 104(e)(7)(42 USC 9604(e)(7))]] to see first-hand how tire crumbs are manufactured. [Ex. 3 [CERCLA section 104(e)(7)(42 USC 9604(e)(7))]] makes tire crumb material for both synthetic turf infill and playground material. The external peer review of the research plan is ongoing, and comments are expected by May 17. CDC, CPSC and EPA are currently reviewing the public comments that were submitted in response to the *Federal Register* notice.

Gold King Mine

The project team is finalizing analyses that evaluate source, transport, fate and potential exposure of metals released from the Gold King Mine, and to complete the formal response to the mid-project peer review comments. ORD is working with Region and OW partners on a schedule for the rollout of products to the states and tribes in the affected river systems and the public over the next six months.

Draft IRIS Assessment for *tert*-Butanol

On May 16, we expect to release a draft IRIS assessment for *tert*-Butanol for public comment. The draft assessment will be discussed at an IRIS public science meeting on June 29-June 30.

EnviroAtlas pre-release briefing on Environmental Market Decision Support Tool

On May 18th, USDA's Office of Environmental Markets will host a pre-release briefing for federal agencies on the new EnviroAtlas Environmental Market Decision Support Tools. The USDA, EPA, and ForestTrends' Ecosystem Marketplace partnered to incorporate environmental markets data into EnviroAtlas. The new data layers show where U.S.

markets for water, carbon, wetlands, and habitats occur in the landscape; provide information about the markets; and allow the information to be displayed along with other environmental data. This allows users to better understand trends, gaps, opportunities, demand, and the enabling or limiting conditions for environmental markets.

Field demonstration on air monitoring technology for dioxins/furans

May 16-25, ORD will conduct a field demonstration of an on-line monitoring technology at the Covanta waste-to-energy plant in Haverhill, MA. The resonance-enhanced multiphoton ionization technology will be used to measure indicator compounds of chlorinated dioxins/furans. ORD has a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with Covanta to determine plant operational changes that may cause changes in dioxin/furan concentrations prior to air pollution control.

Chemical Evaluation Research Promoted on PBS and by European Chemicals Agency

EPA's chemical safety research was promoted by PBS and the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). The PBS segment on the North Carolina public television network describes EPA's high-throughput chemical evaluation research. ECHA promoted EPA's efforts to develop alternative methods for testing chemicals by highlighting our involvement in a scientific workshop through a video, social media, and their newsletter.

Awards

President's Volunteer Service Award

ORD ORISE Fellow Amanda Kaufman has received the 2016 President's Gold Award for Volunteer Service. The award is given to recognize those who "strengthen our nation and communities through volunteer service." Kaufman received the award as part of a program associated with a Citizen Schools WOW event in Durham, N.C. Kaufman has volunteered over the last three years in an after school education program devoted to bringing professionals together with public middle school students in low-income communities to provide those students with an expanded learning after school enrichment opportunity.

2017 Society for Freshwater Science Distinguished Service Award

ORD's Susan Norton has been selected as the winner of the 2017 Society for Freshwater Science Distinguished Service Award, which she will receive at the 2017 annual meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina. Susan is a well-known leader in the field of ecological causal assessment, and has recently authored a textbook of the same name with ORD coauthors Susan Cormier and Glenn Suter. Susan has been instrumental in the development and application of the Causal Analysis/Diagnosis Decision Information System, which was most recently used to assist the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to examine recent outbreaks of disease and mortality in Smallmouth Bass populations in the Susquehanna River.

Publications

National Wetland Condition Assessment 2011

Several ORD researchers were contributors to the *National Wetland Condition Assessment 2011: A Collaborative Survey of the Nation's Wetlands*, that EPA released last week. It finds that less than half of the nation's wetland area (48%) is in good condition based on plant community. Of the stressors examined, physical alterations to wetland habitat, such as surface compaction, ditches, and plant removal, are the most widespread: 27% of wetland area nationally has high stress levels for surface hardening and vegetation removal, and 23% of wetland area has high stress levels for ditching.

Grantee Publication

National Priorities Nutrient Management Center Director Dr. James Mihelcic (University of South Florida) and colleagues published an article in *Environmental Science and Technology*, *How Does Scale of Implementation Impact the Environmental of Wastewater Treatment Integrated with Resource Recovery?* Many modern wastewater treatment plants require high levels of energy and chemicals to maintain their operations. Some studies have shown that the water and wastewater industry accounts for 3.4% of

total electricity use in the US. Researchers use life cycle assessment to evaluate how scale of implementation (household, community, city) impacted the environmental sustainability of wastewater treatment integrated across water reuse, energy recovery, and nutrient recycling. At all scales, the carbon footprint, embodied energy, and eutrophication impacts avoided through water reuse were greater than the impacts avoided through nutrient recycling and energy recovery.